

PART 2: State Wide Shared Objectives

The BOCES Regional Information Centers (RICs) in New York State have identified the following mission statement and shared goals. These goals will be collaboratively achieved by all RICs.

We are a collaborative of BOCES Regional Information Centers providing leadership and efficient, effective technology solutions for the purpose of supporting management, learning and student achievement.

For the 2009-2010 school year, the following goals will be collaboratively achieved by the Regional Information Centers:

1. Develop one answer sheet for NY state tests that can be scanned by all centers.
 - a. Progress as of September 09 – A committee has been formed and has met several times. A representative from WNYRIC is on this committee as we are one of the sites that sends a design to SED for approval. A pilot was accomplished last year with one Regents exam.
 - b. Progress as of December 09 – This committee has met with SED and SED is not interested in pursuing the one design for this spring but instead for 2010-11. There will also be increased accountability for testing accommodations on the Regents exams which would be collected on the answer sheet and an analysis of changed answers on Regents either by erasures or cross outs. WNYRIC will continue to be heavily involved in this committee.
 - c. Progress as of March 2010 – For January 2010 this was successfully accomplished for Geometry. For the spring of 2010 the French and Spanish Comprehensive and French and Spanish Proficiency and Integrated Algebra will be done with one design. There is no update on analysis or changes or erasures at this time.
2. Define:
 - Statewide best practices for using data to inform instruction
 - Develop 3 projects in a multi RIC collaboration to demonstrate
 1. the viability of newly collected data
 2. new ways to analyze existing data for the purpose of improved student performance
 - a. Progress from September 09 – The RICS have developed additional verification Reports that supplement the NyStart reports and are collaborating around the creation of standard instructional reports available to all as well.
 - b. Progress as of December 09 - Additional report creation continues to supplement nySTART. The feedback from the initial supplemental reports was very positive.
 - c. Progress as of March 2010 – Reasonableness reports and total cohort are in progress and will continue to be added.

3. Enhance RIC instructional technology services by creating a quality collaborative learning environment utilizing the RIC-to-RIC network. This secure network will provide students and teachers the ability to collaborate using 21st century tools and skills, including, but not limited to Web 2.0 tools, social networks, distance education, video conferencing, and other e-tools. Two units of study will be developed.
 - a. Progress from September 09 – An elearning project about the Erie Canal was piloted last year with CNYRIC, WNYRIC and Monroe. A DL class is running between a WNYRIC district and a CNYRIC district using the RIC to RIC connection and Internet 2. It is a French IV class. We are investigating another pilot in collaboration with several centers and NYSerNET
 - b. Progress as of December 09 - The Erie Canal project will be repeated. WNYRIC and an interested district are also involved in a project with 10 other RICS and NYSERNET to use tools specific to Internet2. They will do projects throughout the state that can then be replicated. These projects are tied to 21st century skills and ISTE standards. Qualities specific to Internet2 are:
 - large file size transfer
 - quality of service for video conferencing
 - ability for students to interact with research facilities using large microscopes or other research tools available at Internet2
 - connected research sites
 - ability for multicasting
- c. Progress as of March 2010 – The committee has continued to meet. Projects are defined. Testing to the NERIC region is now being discussed.

4. Continue the vision to provide broadband capacity to all learners in K-12 schools. A summary report of statewide access will be produced showing growth since 2006.

Progress:

	September 2002	March 2006	August 2009	February 2010
District Building Locations With Known Speed	2,089	2,866	3,008	3265
Buildings With Less than 100 MBPS	1,363	1,064	534	435
	65%	37%	18%	13%
Buildings With 100 MBPS or Greater	726	1,802	2,474	2830
	35%	63%	82%	87%

LESS THAN 100 – SORT BY RIC

	TOTAL # T-1 AND LESS	TOTAL # LESS THAN 20 MBPS & >T1	TOTAL # <100 MBPS & >20 MBPS	TOTAL
CNYRIC	13	1	8	22
GSTRIC	0	2	0	2
LHRIC	23	6	7	36
M1RIC	3	3	3	9
MHRIC	11	46	23	80
MORIC	5	7	0	12
NASRIC	14	22	23	59
NERIC	67	0	11	78
SCRIC	3	0	0	3
SUFRIC	44	10	12	66
WFLRIC	2	11	53	66
WNYRIC	6	4	1	11
GRAND TOTAL	191	112	141	444

5. Collaborate wherever possible to expand the scope of Regional Information Centers services to P-16, the full scope of USNY partners and municipalities in order to promote shared services achieving effectiveness and efficiencies.
 - a. WNYRIC has investigated the possibility of forming a 5G which would allow for the support of some technical or application areas to municipalities and libraries. At this time, WNYRIC is ready to begin talks with interested libraries.
 - b. We have read through the Technology Plan of the Erie County Library Systems and hope to meet with the Director soon to discuss areas of common interest.
6. Share knowledge around the topic of virtualization to determine methods of leveraging costs and strategizing on the possibilities of using this technology to assist in the efforts of disaster recovery and business continuity.
 - b. Progress as of December 09 – WNYRIC has published a white paper in the progress of virtualization and best practices. As districts implement, the team at the RIC is available to assist with expertise based on implementations complete at the WNYRIC. Districts have found this to be a much appreciated time and money saver to lean on this teams' expertise. There is also a statewide team that meets virtually to collaborate on this topic and share best practices and solutions.